



Mesa Parks, Recreation & Commercial Facilities

PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT AND GUIDELINES

Purpose:

The purpose of the City of Mesa PRCF, Youth Sports programs are to focus on having fun, teaching the proper fundamentals and skills, being active and understanding the importance of physical activity, learning to play as a team, and developing good sportsmanship. We are equal play programs. This means equal opportunity to participate in both playing time and positions. The following codes of conduct and guidelines should be followed to ensure a positive experience for all participants.

Registration:

- Participants may only play once they have registered and have been placed on the official roster. League participants will then be placed on a team roster. Participants may only play for one team.
- Participants should be registered for the program division based on their grade. If an error in division is made, please contact the coach, instructor, or league director as soon as possible.
- Participants should always check in with their coach, instructor, or program director upon arrival and turn in any required paperwork including the participant waiver/form.
- All participants under the age of 18 require a parent/guardian signature in order to register and play.

Uniform and Dress Code:

- Participants should wear a t-shirt. League participants must wear their team shirt to each game.
- Athletic pants or shorts are encouraged which allow for more comfort. No skirts, dresses, or wide leg pants that could hinder safe movement or cause a participant to trip and fall.
- No sandals, flats, or sneakers similar to Chuck Taylors as they have no foot support. The only acceptable footwear is a true closed-toe athletic shoe. Participants may wear plastic cleats or sport specific shoes if the sport allows it.
- No jewelry. This includes earrings, necklaces, watches, rings, bracelets, etc. Medical alert items are allowed.
- Participants must wear protective gear required by the league/program in order to play. This may include shin guards, knee pads, and mouth guards.

Sportsmanship:

- This program is designed to be a positive place where everyone has the same opportunity to participate and learn. Having fun and developing in the sport is more important than winning or the score.
- While it is a part of sports to win or lose, it is not in good taste or good sportsmanship to taunt, make fun of, or harass the other teams or players.

- It is also unacceptable behavior to intentionally “run-up” the score against a team of lesser ability.
- No participant shall intentionally injure another player.
- Participants should cheer their teammates on and help censure teammate’s inappropriate behavior which reflects poorly upon the entire team and program.
- Teams should always shake hands after a game and congratulate each other.
- Show respect for all game officials, scorekeepers, and instructors and the calls they make. Please refrain from any unsportsmanlike acts directed toward them.
- Show respect for all players, coaches, and parents/guardians.

Language and Actions:

- Absolutely no swearing or abusive language. This includes taunting, name-calling, teasing and demeaning other players, coaches, officials, and parents/guardians in any way.
- No use of obscene gestures or similar actions.
- Refrain from actions which are a potential hazard to health, safety, and well-being of anyone.
- Do not abuse, vandalize, or steal City of Mesa or anyone’s property.

Discipline/Behavior Issues:

- 1st occurrence – Warning and asked to correct behavior.
- 2nd occurrence – Time out or sit out of play for an allotted amount of time.
- 3rd occurrence – Sit out for the remainder of practice, game, or activity. Coach, instructor, or program director will speak to parents/guardians and corrective action will be put in place.
- Additional occurrences- Suspension or removal from program may be implemented by program director.
- If it is suspected that a participant may have a behavioral disability, contact the program director immediately to discuss the option of providing additional trained staff to assist with the situation.

Program Attendance:

- Participants should arrive fifteen minutes prior to the start of the program, but no sooner due to safety reasons. League participants should arrive fifteen minutes early as well unless otherwise requested by the coach. Games will start as scheduled and are unable to be delayed to wait for players as that affects all the other players, teams, and games. If a participant is arriving prior to this time, a parent/guardian will be called. If a participant is consistently dropped off early, they may be dropped from the program without refund.
- Participants are expected to be picked up from the program on time. If a participant is still there after ten minutes, a parent/guardian will be called. If a participant is consistently picked up late, they may be dropped from the program without refund.
- Participants are expected to attend all scheduled programming. League participants are expected to attend practices – not just the games. We understand that things come up and a participant might need to miss programming, but if you are unable to attend an activity, practice, or game, please notify the coach, instructor, or program director in advance if possible.